

**MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2007
6:00 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Executive Session (Employment, Dismissal, Compensation, Evaluation of Personnel, and Administrative Evaluations, Bus Transportation Contract, Teacher Contract Negotiations)**
- IV. Recognition of the Public**
- V. Adoption of Consent Agenda**
 - A. Approve February 26, February 28, and March 1, 2007 Minutes**
 - B. Approve Payment of Bills**
- VI. Reports**
 - A. High School Addition – Final Payment**
 - B. November Ice Storm Claim – Full Payment Received**
 - C. Handbook Committee**
- VII. Unfinished Business**
 - A. ISAT Testing Report (School Report Card 2006 Results)**
 - B. 2007-08 Staffing and Curriculum Planning**
 - C. Review of School Board Policy – 8:21 Use of School Facilities**
- VIII. New Business**
 - A. Graduation Dates**
 - B. Tentative School Calendar 2007-08 (April Approval)**
 - C. Re-employment of Administrators**
 - D. Property Casualty Insurance – Recommendation**
 - E. Lincoln Technical Education Center – Joint Agreement Approval 2007-08**
 - F. Reemployment of Non-Tenure Teachers**
- IX. Items of Information**
- X. Adjournment**

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE
MARCH 19, 2007

President Meister called the meeting to order on March 19, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, David Meister, Julian Wubben, Laurie Rhodes, Doug Martin, and Joe Olson. Superintendent Phil Shelton and Grade School Principals Scott Doerr and Gene Newton were also present.

Motion by Laurie Rhodes, second by Julian Wubben to enter Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for employment, dismissal, compensation, evaluation of personnel, administrative evaluations, bus transportation contract, and teacher contract negotiations. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by Doug Martin to exit Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:08 p.m.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to accept Sandy Bobell's resignation as Assistant Cook at MPHS. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to hire Debra Maus as Assistant Cook at MPHS on an hourly basis for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Joe Olson to accept the retirement letter of EGS Secretary Carol Petri effective June 15, 2007. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to accept the retirement letter of Speech teacher Kathi Schilling effective at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Shelton commented that Kathi Schilling's resignation is to take advantage of the TRS ERO (Early Retirement Option). Since the 2004 contract with the teachers was entered into, the Illinois legislature changed regulations/laws for the TRS ERO by increasing the penalty percentages for both the School District and teacher if the retirement occurs before the retirement age with fewer than 35 years of teaching service. In this case the penalty the District will have to pay is \$35,837.29 plus 50% of the employee's portion of the ERO, resulting in the total payable to TRS from the School District of \$43,072.13.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Laurie Rhodes to hire Kristin Rucks as EGS Track Coach for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to accept the resignation of Jonathan Rees as MPHS Golf Coach. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to accept the resignation of Kristin Reynolds as MPHS Assistant Girl's Basketball Coach. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to approve the maternity leave request for Kristin Reynolds, MPGS P.E. teacher. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Doug Martin to adopt the Consent Agenda:

A: Approve February 26, February 28, and March 1, 2007 Minutes

B: Approve Payment of Bills

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Shelton reported the final payment of \$102,327.35 to BRH for the high school addition is included in the bills for this month. The check will be held until all lien waivers are received. The net additional cost for change orders turned out to be only \$3,723. He said he was happy about that. Jeff Haley commented that was excellent.

Dimond Brothers Insurance reimbursed the District this week for the remaining amount due from the ice storm damage claim.

Principal Scott Doerr has been working with a handbook committee on proposed changes to the agenda book. Changes will be reviewed and action taken at the April Board meeting.

Grade School Principals Scott Doerr and Gene Newton reported on the ISAT testing results. The 2006 testing results were received just three or four days prior to this year's ISAT testing. Overall scores were good and the average is up. Copies of the School Report Card are available in each of the three building offices. The teachers met last week to discuss curriculum, textbooks, and implementation for next year. There is an Open House at MPGS scheduled for April 19th.

Staffing and curriculum planning for next year was discussed with additional classes offered in art, improvements in the music program at the high school and grade school levels, and expansion of the technology position.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to employ Rob Siebert as Technology Coordinator for the 2007-2008 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to employ Jenna Kloba as Reading Improvement teacher for the 2007-2008 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Proposed changes to School Board Policy 8:21 Use of School Facilities was again reviewed. The use of the gym by club sports or the parochial school will require a fee of \$35 an hour, which was previously in the policy but will now be enforced, and a new hourly rate of \$20 with a 2 hour minimum for a custodian if one is needed. Julian Wubben commented that #3 of the Policy which requires proof of insurance, payment of damages, and a hold harmless clause for any loss arising out of the use of school property definitely needs to be enforced. Superintendent Shelton said the fees can be used to pay for the increase in utility costs and the significant cost of paper products and cleaning supplies used for a club sports tournament. David Meister felt \$35 an hour for use of the gym was excessive. Jeff Haley didn't think it was excessive. Mike Toohey felt the proposed \$20 an hour custodian rate wasn't excessive since the custodian had already worked a five day week and was being asked to come in on his day off. Laurie Rhodes asked if there was a different fee for use of the gym for practice compared to a tournament. Superintendent Shelton said a custodian wouldn't be needed for a practice.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Laurie Rhodes to adopt Section 8:21 of the Policy Manual as presented. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, and Joe Olson. Answering nay: Jeff Haley and David Meister. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to set 2007 graduation dates as follows:
MPGS – Thursday, May 31, 2007 EGS – Friday, June 1, 2007
MPHS - Saturday, June 2, 2007

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The tentative school calendar for next year is similar to last years. Action will be taken in April.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to reemploy MPGS Principal Gene Newton for the 2007-2008 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Joe Olson to extend Superintendent Philip Shelton's contract through the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Due to the poor service provided by Ace Westchester Insurance involving the November ice storm damage claim, Dimond Brothers got quotes from Indiana Insurance and Selective Insurance. These reflect a close examination of insurance coverage; specifically the loopholes the Ace Westchester policy had for exclusion of coverage for damage caused by downed power lines. There will be a pro-rated refund due the District from Ace Westchester upon cancellation of their coverage.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to cancel the current property/casualty insurance coverage with Ace Westchester Insurance and switch coverage to Selective Insurance effective March 21, 2007 for an annual premium of \$31,488. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Laurie Rhodes to approve the Joint Agreement Resolution with Lincolnland Technical Education Center for the 2007-2008 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to reemploy the following non-tenure teachers for the 2007-2008 school year: Brian Alexander, Heath Houck, Kristin Reynolds, Sheila Myers, Ralph Allen, Brandon Stone, Sarah Phillips, and Karen Allspach. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.


Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to grant tenure status to John Niebrugge for the 2007-2008 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by Laurie Rhodes to enter Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. for employment, dismissal, compensation, evaluation of personnel, administrative evaluations, bus transportation contract, and teacher contract negotiations. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Doug Martin to exit Executive Session at 9:32 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to approve Executive Session minutes as reviewed tonight in Executive Session. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Jeff Haley to adjourn at 9:33 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted by

Catherine J. Shull
Board Recording Secretary